



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture
West Virginia Field Office
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MAY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during May 2020 totaled 1,300,000 pounds. This was up 153 percent from May 2019. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 1,702,000 pounds live weight, up 176 percent from May 2019. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,400 head, up 800 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 110 pounds from the previous year, at 1,185 pounds.

Commercial calf slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 533,000 pounds live weight, up 275 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 1,800 head, up 1,300 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 9 pounds from the previous year, at 300 pounds.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

United States – Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.76 billion pounds in May, down 18 percent from the 4.57 billion pounds produced in May 2019.

Beef production, at 1.87 billion pounds, was 20 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.28 million head, down 23 percent from May 2019. The average live weight was up 51 pounds from the previous year, at 1,367 pounds.

Veal production totaled 5.2 million pounds, 18 percent below May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 32,400 head, down 30 percent from May 2019. The average live weight was up 39 pounds from last year, at 274 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.88 billion pounds, down 15 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 8.59 million head, down 17 percent from May 2019. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from the previous year, at 294 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.6 million pounds, was down 7 percent from May 2019. Sheep slaughter totaled 195,300 head, 7 percent below last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, up 1 pound from May a year ago.

January to May 2020 commercial red meat production was 22.0 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2019. Accumulated beef production was down 4 percent from last year, veal was down 11 percent, pork was up slightly from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 11 percent.

May 2019 contained 23 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

May 2020 contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.